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O 210814Z APR 08  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHXP/ALL NATO POST COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3626  
INFO RUEHXP/ALL NATO POST COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 2914  
RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY 0297  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 2237  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 8933  
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 7375  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY 9755  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 1049  
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 7971  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/USFJ PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/COMUSKOREA SEOUL KOR PRIORITY  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 9448  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 001095

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/21/2016

TAGS: PREL MARR PARM JA RS  
SUBJECT: JAPAN-RUSSIA POL-MIL DIALOGUE REVIEWS MISSILE  
DEFENSE AND ASIA-PACIFIC SECURITY

REF: 07 TOKYO 5019

Classified By: Ambassador J. Thomas Schieffer. Reasons 1.4 (B) (D)

¶1. (C) Summary. Russia inquired about the status of United States-Japan ballistic missile cooperation, including whether Tokyo's ballistic missile defense (BMD) system could obtain data directly from the United States, during the April 11 Japan-Russia Political-Military Dialogue in Tokyo. Japan responded its BMD system is purely defensive, and that Tokyo &would determine on its own, independent of Washington, whether to use missile defense.<sup>8</sup> On Asia-Pacific regional security, the two sides exchanged views on elements that might lead to instability, with Russia noting that future regional challenges are likely to come from new threats such as international terrorism. Japan welcomed Moscow's expanded interest in the Asia-Pacific region, and Russia urged both nations to address new developments through better cooperation and improved information sharing. End Summary.

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Dialogue Re-started  
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¶2. (C) On April 15, Russia Division Principal Deputy Director Kotaro Otsuki briefed Embassy Tokyo on the April 11 Japan-Russia Political-Military Dialogue in Tokyo. Deputy Foreign Minister Kenichiro Sasae led a four-hour discussion with Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Kislyak on security-related topics, including BMD, NATO, North Korea, and Asia-Pacific regional security. Otsuki said the bilateral dialogue began as a "2 2"-type meeting "in the late 1990's," evolved into a Defense Ministerial-only discussion, and ended as a result of the 2003 Muneo Suzuki scandal involving the Northern Territories issue. Japanese officials offered to re-start the Political-Military Dialogue following Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's October 2007 Tokyo visit, during with the Russian FM expressed concerns about Japan's

missile defense cooperation with the United States (Ref A).

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Missile Defense  
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¶3. (C) According to Otsuki, Kislyak asked questions about the status of United States-Japan BMD cooperation, including whether Tokyo could obtain data directly from United States platforms (e.g., Aegis warships). Sase explained the status of the research and development effort between Tokyo and Washington, and noted Japan's BMD system is purely defensive. Otsuki, suggesting that the Tokyo delegation either did not know and/or did not wish to discuss the technical details, said that Sase denied there is a political linkage regarding any potential decision to employ BMD. In other words, Tokyo would determine on its own, independent of Washington, whether to use missile defense, Otsuki relayed. Otsuki, who attended the BMD portion of the meeting, opined that Moscow seemed to be concerned about whether Japan's system could be used jointly with the United States.

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Asia-Pacific  
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¶4. (C) Sase and Kislyak also exchanged views on elements in the Asia-Pacific region that might lead to instability. Sase said Japan welcomes Russia's expanded interest in the Asia-Pacific region and is ready to cooperate with Moscow to improve the security environment. The Russian delegation responded that, while Cold War thinking exists in Europe,

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challenges in the Asia-Pacific theatre will come from new threats such as international terrorism. Kislyak urged both nations to address these new developments through better cooperation and improved information sharing. Otsuki reflected that Moscow sees the Asia-Pacific region as being devoid of the kind of East-West confrontation that Russia believes still exists in Europe.

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NATO  
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¶5. (C) Sase and Kislyak exchanged views on each country's bilateral cooperation with NATO (Japan-NATO, Russia-NATO). The Tokyo side referred to cooperative assistance programs with the provisional reconstruction teams in Afghanistan. Kislyak complained that ongoing discussions in NATO about eastward expansion are causing difficulties and problems because the Alliance wants to expand to the border of the former USSR.

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North Korea  
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¶6. (C) Japan asked for Russia's support in resolving the abduction, nuclear, and missile issues. The Russian delegation, according to Otsuki, noted the important role played by China, and said all parties must increase efforts to resolve problems.

SCHIEFFER